



Key Quotes

Albania-EU: Keeping the promise alive. Nikola Dimitrov, a distinguished fellow at the Hague Institute for Global Justice, writes: *"The EU's enlargement policy has facilitated the peaceful transformation of half the European continent, overcome tensions over minorities and borders in central Europe, and supplied a blueprint for political, judicial and economic reforms. It has also proved to be the most effective mobilizing factor for stabilization, prosperity and regional cooperation in the Balkans. However, this potent transformational tool only works when the progress achieved is matched with corresponding political decisions in Brussels. Rejection by default leads to discouragement and weakens reform-oriented political forces, brings backpedaling on performance in the countries concerned and decreases the EU's leverage. Just as bad is giving the aspirant and candidate countries short cuts or bringing them in when they are not ready. Both imbalances defeat the very purpose of enlargement policy"* (euractiv.com, BE, 16/6)
<http://www.euractiv.com/sections/enlargement/albania-eu-keeping-promise-alive-302823>

Summary

UK Prime Minister urged to keep Albania out of EU

THERE were calls yesterday from senior Tories for David Cameron to block Albania's bid to join the European Union. There are fears from some Tories over opening the door to migrants from a poverty stricken country notorious for organised crime and human trafficking. They want the Prime Minister to veto any new countries' admission until he has renegotiated rules on free movement. Former Tory leadership candidate David Davis said: *"You shouldn't allow any other countries in until we've got free movement put on to a qualification rather than time basis. In other words, until they have got their income and other things up to a certain level."* Alan Murad, of the Get Britain Out anti-EU campaign, said the prospect of Albania joining the EU was *"extremely concerning"*. He said: *"Unemployment there remains staggeringly high while wages remain at rock bottom. The EU is wilfully ignoring corruption, human trafficking and organised crime in aid of EU expansion ambitions."* Albania is one of Europe's poorest states with unemployment at 17 per cent and an average monthly wage of £305. The PM has promised to limit Albanians' rights to travel here but not said how. A source predicted he would back its candidature - but the Foreign Office said Albania's reforms were still under consideration. *"We are looking at reforms Albania continues to pursue with a view to further discussions with EU partners,"* said a spokesman (Daily-Express, UK, 16/6).

- Daily-Express, UK, 16/6, [link not available]

"We need to be hard on ourselves"

In an interview, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić said that he has noticed that support from Angela Merkel for his country's accession to the European Union is increasing, as she sees Serbia as an anchor of stability in the Balkans. Commenting on Roma returning to his country from Germany, Mr Vučić said that he was grateful for suggestions from the European Union on how to integrate them. He predicted that by 2020, Serbia will be a member state of the European Union, as long it implements necessary economic reforms, such as privatising some of the country's 157 state-run companies (Handelsblatt, DE, 16/6).

- Handelsblatt, DE, 16/6, http://193.178.140.110/delivery/20140616/mi/item_202902091.pdf

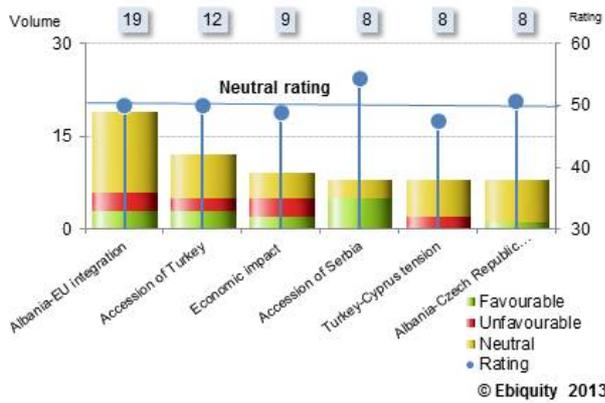
EU Enlargement Commissioner on a two-day visit in Turkey (bnr.bg, BG, 16/6)

The visit comes after Ankara and Brussels postponed a key evaluation in meeting in April, at a time when the government's bans on Twitter and YouTube were still in place. Turkey opened a negotiation chapter last year after a three-year hiatus, but there are no signs for the opening of a new chapter either in the current Greek EU term presidency or in the upcoming Italian term presidency. (ansamed.info, IT, 16/6).

- bnr.bg, BG, 16/6, <http://bnr.bg/post/100422592/evrokomisarar-po-razshiravaneto-e-na-dvudnevno-poseshtenie-v-turcia>
- ansamed.info, IT, 16/6, http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2014/06/16/eu-turkey-enlargement-commissioner-visits-ankara-for-talks_57ce8228-eead-4f89-9b80-e8d600f6b185.html

Charts

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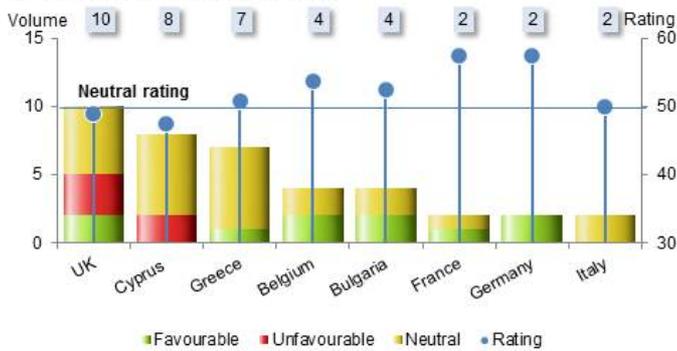
Volume	40 items
Rating	50.8
Favourable %	25%
Unfavourable %	12.5%
Neutral %	62.5%

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ELARG: Key Stakeholders & Sources
by volume, favourability & rating

ELARG: Stakeholders & Sources	Number of mentions
Štefan Füle (Enlargement Commissioner, EC)	8
David Cameron (Prime Minister, UK)	7
Damian Gjiknuri (Energy and Industry Minister, Albania)	7
Aleksandar Vučić (Prime Minister, Serbia)	3

ELARG: Leading Daily Countries
by volume, favourability & rating



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